

THE WYOMING MESSENGER

February 2018



1... 2... 3... Events of the Month

Please join us for a night of great family fellowship and excellent food as we prepare to celebrate the forthcoming Easter Season.

The **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner &**

Puppets of Praise Program will be held on **February 13th** beginning at **5:30 PM** in the Family Life Center. The Chefs of the Sexton Kitchen Team will prepare a delicious pancake dinner, then the Puppets of Praise will hold a special performance, and we will end our night with a small Easter Egg Hunt for our toddlers and K-5th graders.

If you know that you are coming please take a moment and sign up in the narthex so we can begin preparing. If you won't know until the last minute, don't worry, we still want you to join us. We always prepare extra! If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Danny Cooper at ☎ 698-1960.



Total Request Live Night
February 10 - 6 PM



Inside this Issue

Valentine Ashes? (Pastor Rick)	3
When We Worship Together, Something Happens! (Pastor Dave)	4
Released (Danny Cooper)	5
Troop 24 Reports	5
A Great Guy Thing	6
Financial News	7
Youth Page & Calendar	8
'Marathon' Memories	9
Wrapped in Prayer	10
ARC Valentine Dance	12
Words of Thanks	12
Our People	13
Ladies' Retreat	14
Off to Colorado - Sue & Joe	16
Food & Faith & Family 18+19	
Spaghetti & Blue Grass 18	
Worship @ Dover Place	20
Memories of 'One Day' MLK Celebration 2018 ...	21
Cherry Pies	Back Cover
Memory Verse ...	Back Cover

Bulletin Board

COMING SOON

**2018
PHOTO
CHURCH
DIRECTORY**

Professional photographer Dave Kleinot will take everyone's pictures in April.

*Watch for complete details!

Everyone attending Wyoming Church is encouraged to participate!

We'll be looking for some volunteers to help.

Call Betsy ☎ 387-1586 or Barbara ☎ 538-6772.

Our **2018 Flower Book** is at the Welcome Desk. Please visit the Welcome Desk and choose a Sunday to dedicate flowers on the altar. There are many Sundays available!
Barbara Towle
☎ 492-8466



Food First Sunday is February 4. Leave your

donations for the Kent Ecumenical pantries on the cart in the narthex.

Needed this time:

Applesauce, Canned Fruit, 1 lb. bag of rice, toilet tissue, canned meats, such as chili, stew, tuna, chunky soups, etc.

A 7 week **Bible study on Ephesians** will start **Monday, March 19th at 1 PM** at the home of Sharon Duncan. It doesn't matter where you've been or what you've done, GOD wants a relationship with YOU. This study will help us better understand the BIG LOVE of God. This is a brand new study from Stonecroft Ministries. Please call Sharon ☎ 698 1904 to sign up- the cost of the study book is \$10.

Dear Volunteer!

Would you like to join the number of faithful, reliable and much appreciated substitutes who would fill in for the office manager, a few hours at a time, when I'm on my 'summer break'?

from July 17 through August 17?

Currently, in my absence we need a substitute whenever my assistant Angela Donastorg is not in the office - we'll have her summer class schedule soon.

The church office is open from 9AM to 4PM with a half hour lunch at 12:30. A volunteer would typically come in for the morning (9AM to 12:30PM) or afternoon (1 to 4PM).

What does a substitute do?

You don't have to do my job... You **help walk-ins** as best you can, **answer the phones** and **take messages**. All important phone numbers and all information on current events is right there in the office for you, and, of course, you can use the internet on any office computer while you're here.

Maybe a few more people would be willing to give it a try? Moms, you can bring in your little ones - we have toys in the office.

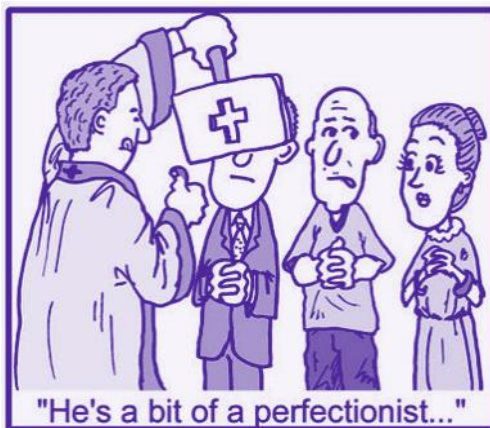
Thanks for considering!

Renate Purdy
Office Manager

From the Pastor's Desk

Rick Wessell

True confession: I have never been a fan of corny church signs. A lot of local churches love to put some saying up on their sign that is funny, thought provoking, ironic, etc. in the hopes of attracting people to the church. The first congregation that I served LOVED those sayings, and there was a team at the church whose solitary responsibility was to come up with a new saying every month. A church I drive past on the way to our church loves these sayings as well. One month they had up this classic: "CH—CH. What's missing? UR!" Last summer they went with "Apply Son screen to prevent Sin Burn." I saw one recently at another



church, however, that actually caught my attention: **"Lent is coming! Get your ash in church."**

Ash Wednesday is coming up on Wednesday, February 14th. For some, receiving ashes on that day is a critical part of their faith and yearly journey with the Lord. For others, it is a strange tradition that they have never participated in. Beginning in the Old Testament, ashes are used as a sign of repentance. They were an outward sign of a contrite spirit and it let other people know that you were mourning your sins. We continue that tradition as a means of remembering that we are human and that our means and abilities are finite. We cannot do everything for ourselves; we need God. More to the point, we cannot save ourselves from sin and death—only Jesus can do that for us.

The ashes remind us of our need for Christ and the hope that we have in our redemption by him.

I'm inviting you to come and receive ashes on the 14th. There will be two opportunities to do so: 7-8 AM and 12-1 PM. You are invited to come to the sanctuary for a time of personal prayer and reflection, and then you may receive the ashes when you are ready. You may come and go as you please, or you can stay and pray as long as you'd like.

We'll see you on Wednesday the 14th as we being the journey of Lent together.



A large order of completed *Memorial Bricks* has been received from the Stonemason and are on display in the Narthex. Placement will occur at the request of those folks that placed the respective orders once we begin to experience some better weather. Several other orders are now 'working their way through the system' and should be ready in the near future. Weather dependent work on borders and beds will commence with forthcoming warmer, spring conditions.

Should you have questions relative to the Memorial Garden Project please contact Dave Yencer at ☎ 222-2252 or Terry Higgins at ☎ 492-3354.



Pastor Dave's Ministry Minute -
February 2018

"Something Happens When We Worship Together..."

The second annual MLK Day Celebration took place at Wyoming Church on Monday, January 15, 2018, and to say it was spirit-filled would be an understatement... There was fiery preaching, spirit-filled prayers and music that lifted the souls of everyone who was in attendance... Reverend Dean Snyder was one of the guest speakers who I met at a seminar in 2016... I discovered that Dean was active in multi-ethnic ministries for a large portion of his career as a pastor in both Philadelphia and Washington D.C. He served out his call to proclaim the gospel faithfully in congregations that were diverse in nature... During his message in the service, Dean said, "something happens when we worship together that the eye cannot see, and the ear cannot hear"... That "something" was what, I believe, we experienced on that Monday... The very spirit of God was at work in our midst in such a way that many lives and hearts were touched as we experienced the presence of God in a meaningful way... Diverse congregations and their clergy leaders from around our community came together to praise and worship God and I trust that the Lord was pleased... I believe God poured out his spirit on our gathering in such a way that we experienced a mighty revelation of the Glory of the Lord... I am certain that all who were present felt the revelation of God's glory and were blessed... If you long to experience that "something", you can mark your calendars for next year... I've already begun planning next year's program and am trusting God for the outcome... May God have his way...



Friends in Ministry for many, many years:
The Rev. Dr. John Moore, keynote speaker on
January 15 and Pastor Dave Hill

More photos of the MLK Event on Page 21



"I have given them the glory that you gave me,
that they may be one as we are one" John 17:22

Reflections

Reflections



Released

But those who trust in the LORD will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.
Isaiah 40:31

While I was raised on a working farm most of my formative years, I must confess that I have just a bit more agricultural knowledge than the average city dweller. This sad reality surfaced again this past week when talking with my counseling colleague Sue. Sue, who happens to have a very good grasp of the rural life, particularly pertaining to farm related animals, spoke of the grief support group that she leads called *Grief Share*. This special group experience covers at least ten meetings, with one of the latter sessions focusing specifically on the topic of heaven. It is at this most meaningful juncture in the group experience that Sue and the group attendees release a small collection of doves from a cage. I can only speak for myself, but there are times when I hear a story shared or watch a scene unfold and it is as if a lesson straight from the Lord has been provided. I felt privileged to have this experience as Sue briefly described the process of releasing the doves. I will paraphrase what I heard... *the doves are released from their cage and they immediately fly up and circle about for a moment or two, trying to get their bearings. When they finally locate the direction of home, they immediately begin their journey. The doves can only fly in the light, and so will need to arrive home before dark.*

I know my recount of what Sue shared is not precise, but hopefully the essence of the story made it through. It reminded me of our own

Danny Cooper Coordinator/Counselor
@ Daybreak Counseling Services

human journey in so many ways, especially the profound hunger for home that is innate to our being as God's children, but with the barrier of the cage that impedes our progress toward that end.

As a pastoral counselor, I am especially struck by the circling about that occurs once the dove is freed from the cage. It is such a helpful reminder for us that while we celebrate our release from anything in this life that may restrict and hold us back, like the dove, we still need to orient ourselves to home, which in our case is our heavenly home. Much of what I witness in the counseling office is not simply seeking release from the trappings of this world, but the circling about period; trying to figure out how to position one's self on the path that leads to home.

We thankfully don't need to be a counselor to appreciate this flight to freedom, both in our own lives and in the lives of those around us. Let this story of the doves remind us of the worldly power that cages in this life can have on us, cages that we often allow or pursue that keep us bound to this dusty earth. And most importantly, let us remember that Jesus came into this world for one very simple reason, which was to free us from our sin and the sinful hold of this fallen world. Through our Lord, a way has been made for us to follow; a lighted path for our journey home.

This world will always have cages for our entrapment, but we have each been offered release through Christ our Lord.

**May we
each let go
and take flight...**

Amen.



Troop 24

chartered
by
Wyoming
Church, **reports...**



November's Oyster Dinner and Auction was a huge success with the troop earning several thousand dollars. Some of that money will be used for camperships for kids to go to summer camp. Some of the money has already been used to purchase lightweight and compact backpacking tents.

Troop 24 rechartered in December 2017 with 26 youth and 15 adults. This is down slightly from 2016, however, the troop is expecting 6 new scouts to cross over in February from Cub Scout Pack 297. The Troop is very grateful for the church's generosity towards the annual rechartering fee.

Due to the busy holiday season, the troop didn't have a campout in November or December but instead had a day at a trampoline park in November and met to go to the movies and lunch in December.

Looking ahead, the troop will be doing their annual Wilderness Survival campout in January followed by the Klondike Derby in February. The Klondike Derby involves multiple boy scout troops from the area who compete to build a sled and complete scout related activities (cooking, knot tying, etc). The last two years they've been fortunate (?) to have snow, which makes sledding a little easier even if it is colder.

Several campouts are scheduled in the spring in nearby state parks followed by a whitewater rafting trip for the scouts and their families in June. Looks like fun times ahead!



It was a *great!* Guy Thing

Proverbs 27:17



*As Iron sharpens Iron,
so a Man sharpens
the countenance of
his Friend.*

...till next year!



DECEMBER 2017 Month End Finance Report

Michael Quarnaccio, Finance Team Chair

The following report includes current year to date financials and the 2017 budget approved at the meeting of Church council held on January 23, 2017.

	<u>Inc/Exp to Date</u>	<u>Budget to Date</u>	<u>2017 Budget</u>
Weekly Offerings –Operating	562,931	585,622	585,622
Other offerings	80,065	78,335	78,335
Interest Income	1,622	5,000	5,000
Total Offerings	644,618	668,957	668,957
Finance Team	6,856	6,700	6,700
Office	22,560	21,275	21,275
Personnel	152,778	169,292	169,292
Mortgage interest	76,852	76,475	76,475
Properties and equipment	95,068	97,772	97,772
Total Administrative Council	354,114	371,514	371,514
Nursery and Supplies		50	50
Benevolences (Conference)	61,896	61,896	61,896
Education & Youth	3,585	7,050	7,050
Extended Table	-	150	150
Music	1,265	2,000	2,000
Worship	233	250	250
Total Council on Ministries	66,979	71,396	71,396
Pastor Parish Relations	126,488	129,980	129,980
Mortgage principal liability (Reduces debt to PNC Bank)	107,837	96,067	96,067
Total Expense	655,417	668,957	668,957
Net Income (Loss)	(10,800)		

Balance of Mortgage on 01/01/2017

\$ 2,045,807.71

Interest paid in 2017

\$ 76,852.13

Principal paid in 2017

\$ 529,554.96

Twelve men from Wyoming Church met at Camp Pecometh on Friday, January 12, 2018, for our 1st Annual **Men's Retreat**. After checking in, we assembled in the dining room for dinner with Pastor Rick. After dinner we gathered in the Carter Lodge Sun Room for devotions and discussions with Pastor Rick. It was spiritually uplifting and inspirational. Saturday morning after a hearty breakfast the team went outside to perform a project for Camp PeCoMeth.

Saturday, Pastor Bill Downing joined us. After lunch we met in the Carter Lodge Sun Room for another inspirational time led by Pastor Downing. There were many refreshing times for the men to get acquainted with one another. The restful, peaceful setting gave us opportunities to commune with God and be still in His presence.

The men came away from their togetherness eager to return next year. All have agreed to connect with another WUMC member to invite him to join in the 2nd Annual Retreat.

Wyoming UMC

YOUTH MINISTRY

"Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in What you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity". 1 Timothy 4:12

February UPDATE!

upcoming
events

February 4th: No Youth Gathering

February 11th: Youth Group, 6-8 PM

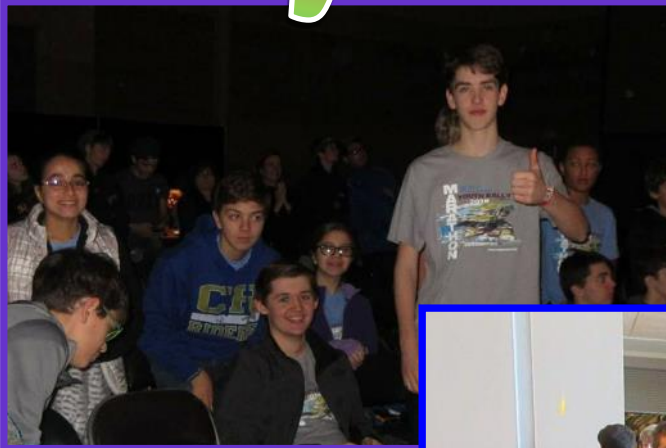
February 19th: Youth Group, 6-8 PM

February 25th: Youth Group, 6-8 PM

The youth ministries of Wyoming Church are open to all youth in grades 6-12.



Youth Rally 2018



PEOPLE PRAYING.

AT 5:00 PM EVERY

WEDNESDAY.



Where are you on Wednesdays at 5:00 PM ?

Will you take a few minutes to lift Wyoming Church in prayer ?

There are people praying in the sanctuary every Wednesday at 5:00 PM.

Come join them or pray right where you are.

Pray your praises, requests and blessings for Wyoming Church.

God hears all our prayers!

Thanks be to God!



Karen Priestley



(302) 697-1828

..."that the work of our hands may spread God's love to others"...

this is the motto of our own Wyoming Church's charity knitting group.

The group began 10 years ago with the project of creating prayer shawls that can be given to persons of our church and our community who need a visible reminder that God is with them and people are praying for them. Since then many of you have joined in the projects ranging from baby items for hospitals, scarves for the military, hats for the homeless and needy children in our schools and many others.

We invite you all to join us with our project of prayer shawls. In the narthex area, you'll find patterns for both knitted and crocheted shawls. As they are completed and returned, they will be prayed over by our "People Praying." meeting from 5 to 6 PM each Wednesday in the sanctuary.

A few shawls are placed on pews during our services so they are available if you would like to take one to a friend needing comfort from illness, recovery from surgery, one who is grieving, or other needs.

As the shawl is given, it will be a symbol of God's love and our prayers surrounding them.



Lift Up Your Voice

with a
Worship
and Praise
Event...

... featuring Wyoming UMC's talented music teams

... on Saturday, February 10th -
6:00 to 8:15 p.m.

Singing along encouraged!

Come at 6:00 to purchase a hotdog, drinks, and
baked goods (*benefitting VBS expenses*)

LOVE offering collected towards debt reduction

For questions email linda.lyon@aol.com or call WUMC ☎ 697-8400



"Be a Sweetheart!"

Looking for a way to make someone smile and warm his or her heart this Valentine's season?

On Friday, February 16th, come to the ARC of Delaware Dance in our Family Life Center to greet all the "Sweethearts" who will be coming to dance the night away with their friends from the Arc! Watch their faces light up when they are greeted with your smile and warm Wyoming Church Welcome!

They start arriving at 6:30 pm and the music starts at 7:00 pm. Many will be all dressed up for this "Ball" and bring sweet treats and flowers for their sweethearts!

You will warm their hearts with your welcome, but I know your heart will be warmed, as well! Come, be a sweetheart and a blessing!

This relationship with the ARC of Delaware over the years is through WUMC

A.C.C.E.S.S. (All God's Children Every Single Soul) Team. If you are interested in being involved with this team, please call the Church Office.



Dear Church Family,

Words seem inadequate to express our sincere appreciation for all the prayers, concerns, love and actions given to us and to Beth during her four and a half years' journey with cancer. You made a hard road so much easier and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Love in Christ,
Betty and Well Inge



Thank you all for the prayers before during and after my second knee replacement. The second one was easier and I'm recovering quite well. I appreciated the cards, calls and visits, so thoughtful. TLC, thank you for the home cooked meals which Russ and I were grateful for. My prayer shawl from Knitting to Nurture is beautiful and a lovely protection. What a privilege to belong to a church with such a caring congregation. I'm looking forward to finishing therapy and getting back on the giving end. I'm so thankful for these many blessings.

Love,
Valerie Riggins

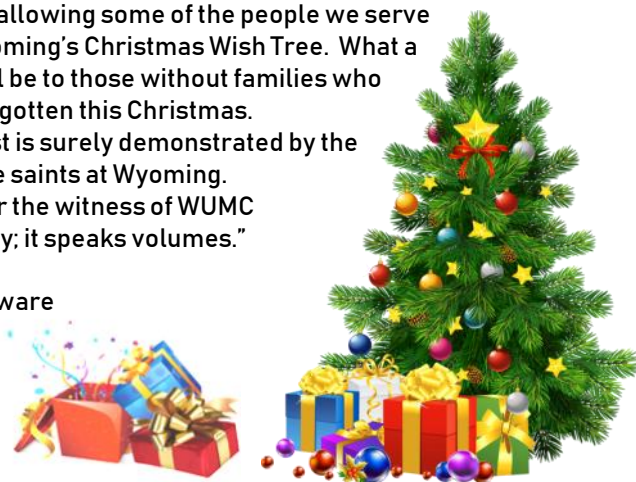
The coordinators for the recipients of our Giving Tree expressed the following comments in their "Thank You" letters:

"I am absolutely blown away by the gifts again this year. It is truly humbling and heartwarming to help so many families with the AWESOME donations from our AMAZING church! So many children are going to also have a wonderful Christmas thanks to you!"

Stephanie Wagner,
Coordinator, Polytech Parents as Teachers

I am writing on behalf of everyone here at the ARC of Delaware to thank you for allowing some of the people we serve to be part of Wyoming's Christmas Wish Tree. What a blessing this will be to those without families who can easily be forgotten this Christmas. The love of Christ is surely demonstrated by the generosity of the saints at Wyoming. Thanking God for the witness of WUMC in our community; it speaks volumes."

Janice Watkins,
The ARC of Delaware



~ Our People ~

~ February Birthdays ~

02/01 Rick Sharpe, Pete Thompson,
Todd Mahrenholz
02/02 Sandy Rager, Nathan Hoyme,
Chuck Muldrow
02/03 Pastor Dave Hill, Doug Ditty,
Amy Higgins, Brett Krout
02/04 Aiden Flaherty, Ezra Delgado
02/06 Judy Field, Wanda Edwards,
Aurora Hamblin
02/07 Norma Bennett
02/08 Lori Carlin, Maggie Kling
02/09 Caleb Anthony, Will Anthony
02/10 Tyler Sell, Liam Buczynski, Carol Milton
02/12 Lynn Shively
02/11 Dianna Rodgers, Denise Brosius
02/14 Mike Smith, Ann Rogge
02/15 Pete Servon, Jonathan Forbes,
Krista Nielson

02/16 Matthew Singleton, Cody Malone,
Walker Edwards
02/17 Jenny Marlow
02/18 Luke Brosius
02/19 Mary Schoettinger, Elaina Hill,
Lynn Zimmerman
02/20 Pam Hill, Sandy Robinson
02/22 Victoria Trice
02/23 Rose Larimore, Dan Deckard,
Joelle Rubino-Sinclair,
Ellyanna Mateja, Mahlon Dyer
02/24 Melissa Mann, Lydia Klecan,
Wyatt Lefort
02/25 Josefena Marasco
02/26 Clinton Marlow, Mark Reed
02/27 Drake Nichols, Sandy Bazil
02/28 Karissa Mann
03/01 Linda Lyon, Bryce Piazza

03/02 Carol Abbott, Shannon Ritter
03/03 Renate Purdy, Connie Hagen,
Sheila Snyder, Joe Hajec
03/04 Richard Stockslager, Evelyn Voshell,
Jack Kling, Cindy Pearson, Elaina Ditty
03/05 Melissa Piazza, Frank Sumpter,
Jeff Williams
03/06 Jeff Purdy, Elayna Simpson
03/07 Joyce Stockslager

*May your life be filled with laughter.
May your heart be filled with song.
May your eyes be filled with beauty.
May your soul always know
to whom you belong.*
IRISH BLESSING

~ Births ~

Connor Jarrod Sinclair
was born
to Joelle and Steven Sinclair
On November 28, 2017 .
Congratulations also to
proud grandparents
Nancy and Dennis Rubino.



**Matilde "Tilly" Amalie
Kunzendorf**

was born to Becky Lambert
and Fede Kunzendorf in
Miami Springs, FL
on January 3, 2018,
joining siblings Ryan, Lauren
and Oli.
Congratulations also to proud
grandparents Sue & Joe Hajec!

*A baby
fills a
place in
your heart
that you
never
knew was
empty*

coolsmart.com

...and Becky and Fede,
Joelle and Steven,
Sue and Joe,
Nancy and Dennis
and everyone else
in their families
would be quick to agree!

**RETREAT LEADER:**

You don't want to miss what promises to be an inspiring, uplifting, fun retreat planned and led by our Wyoming Church friend, published author and sister in Christ, *Kim Bryan*.

WHO? All ladies of the church... bring a friend!

WHEN? Sunday, May 20th and Monday, May 21st

WHERE? Riverview Retreat Center at Pecometh, Centreville, MD.

Each room includes two queen beds and bathroom in this recently upgraded Methodist center on the banks of the Chester River on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Handicap rooms available. Their **website: www.pecometh.org**.

HOW? Fill out a registration form and leave it in the envelope provided at the welcome desk.

WHY? An opportunity to fellowship in a Christian atmosphere as we sing, pray, eat, laugh, enjoy the beauty of God's creation, share in a comfortable setting, listen to each other and connect in a special way.

COST... includes three meals and is dependent on the number of guests in a room. **Payment deadline: May 6th.**



We'd love to see
YOUR smiling face!



QUESTIONS / INFORMATION...
Barbara Shaw ☎ (302) 538-6772 or
HShaw111@aol.com or
Tracy Fennemore
TFennemore@gmail.com.

Wyoming United Methodist Church
Annual Ladies Retreat
May 20 - 21, 2018
Riverview Retreat Center at Pecometh

We will leave from church at 3:30 PM on Sunday afternoon and return approximately 3:30 PM on Monday. All ladies of the church are welcome. Invite a friend! Transportation will be car pools. Cost includes room and 3 full meals and the use of all facilities. You can view this handicap accessible facility on their website: www.pecometh.org.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Roommate Arrangement: _____

Each room is furnished with two queen beds.

_____ 2 to a room \$ 130.00 per person

_____ 3 to a room \$ 114.00 per person

_____ 4 to a room \$ 100.00 per person

Registration: Return registrations to Nancy Roberts, 77 Hilltop Trail, Camden, DE 19934 or leave it at the welcome desk: attention "Ladies Retreat".

Payment Deadline: Sunday May 6th. Checks should be made out to WUMC with the notation "Ladies Retreat"; amount depending on choice of room accommodations. Mail payments to Nancy. (To facilitate our record keeping please do not leave payments or registration at church office or place in offering plate). Call Barbara Shaw ☎ 538-6772 or email HShaw111@aol.com with any questions.

Are you willing to drive? _____ How many passengers? _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: name, relationship, number (required)

Dietary Restrictions:

A Reflection. . .

It has been an interesting end of 2017 for WUMC as the budget was prepared, presented and passed and new positions brought to fruition. An agreement to host the 2018 monthly Arc of Delaware dances in our FLC celebrates our participation with all of God's Children!



The end of the year also brought very special and meaningful worship and music to celebrate God's gift to us 2000 years ago in the birth of His Son, Jesus. Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection remains the most precious gift! It is because of that gift through our faith that we can live eternally with Jesus. Accepting that gift and what we do with it is our response to God's love for us.

Being a child of God and a part of the Body of Christ, which is the Church, is an awesome responsibility and requires an awesome response. Each part of that body - each of us - is important, just as each part of our human body is important. Each part of our physical body must be cared for and nourished, communicate with the other parts and work in harmony with the other parts. So it is with the church, The Body of Christ. All parts of the church - clergy and laity - must keep themselves in good working order, care for the other parts, communicate with other parts and work together with the other parts to accomplish the goals for the good of all. Effective, affirming and meaningful communication and participation are essential in creating a strong body as God intended.

Decisions on how to maintain this healthy Body of Christ shouldn't be made lightly or quickly, running ahead without waiting for and discerning God's will for WUMC. I applaud the teams who used the guidance of the Holy Spirit to direct and set their visions, goals and spending plans for 2018. I pray that all aspects of the ministries, service and care for our church and community will, without hesitation, seek the wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit before making decisions. I pray that all we do as a church will reflect and serve the greater mission Christ gave his disciples before his ascension and the mission the United Methodist Church has adopted. That is to **go and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world**. There are many ways we at WUMC are striving toward this mission. Even still, there is always more work to be done for this mission. Perhaps Teams could discuss some of these questions to stimulate conversation, evaluation and goal setting.

Is our Body of Christ as strong as it could be?

Why are we doing what we are doing?

What is our mission?

What are our goals?

What can be improved and strengthened?

What can be readjusted?

Are Team Leaders and members trained for the Teams they are on?

What needs to be added or increased for the health of the church and the community? What needs to be put aside if it doesn't reflect or support the mission of The Body of Christ at Wyoming Church?

Are all Teams knowledgeable about what the other teams are doing and how it fits into the mission of the church?

Is there healthy and helpful communication between the teams?

Does the communication include exchange of ideas and working together on related goals?

Are all our parts working in the same direction on the same mission?

How are we reaching unchurched people?

Is there encouragement and opportunities for personal spiritual growth?

Are we making disciples for Christ for the transformation of the world?

It is also important for each of us individually to assess our own personal role and commitment to the Body of Christ. I encourage each of us at the beginning of this year to reevaluate our responses to our commitment to church membership by our **prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness**. To do that, each of us needs to ask ourselves—

Am I praying daily or at least weekly for my church (clergy and laity) and it's ministries?

Am I actively and joyfully participating to accomplish the goals of our church and grow my own relationship with Jesus?

Am I giving my gifts, tithes and offerings regularly to support the church and its ministries?

Am I serving for the good of others and to the Glory of God without expecting anything in return?

Am I using the gifts God has given me to serve others?

Am I telling others about the things God is doing in my life?

Am I seeking ways to bring the Love of Jesus to another person?

One of my favorite scriptures is 1 Peter 4:10-11 because it changed a path in my life. I was not using the gifts God had given me for purposes he intended for me. After months of struggling to achieve my own purposes, he revealed this passage to me and opened my heart, mind and eyes to see how He wanted me to serve him using the gifts he had given me! I found peace when my focus and actions changed to His!

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to

serve others, faithfully administering God's Grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

I pray that each of you will find the path God intends for you and your church family here at WUMC and pursue it with joy, peace and faith!

I am starting on another path in my life with Joe in a few weeks. This will be my last article for the Newsletter as Lay Leader of WUMC and the end of our service to WUMC after 36 years. Joe and I will be moving to Colorado soon to be very close to our son, Charlie, his wife and their 3 children. We feel we are walking through the doors God is opening for us on the path He is leading us!

We leave behind many wonderful and dear friends whom we love from our Wyoming Church family and this community. You have celebrated many special times with us! You have stood with us and loved us and prayed with and for us during sad times. You have worked beside us, with us and for us on many projects, mission trips and service. You have worshiped with us, prayed with and for us. You have taught us life lessons, and God's Word! You have fed us! You have taught, loved and spiritually supported our 3 children.

We are taking with us many, many wonderful memories of our friends and church family who have given us overwhelming love, support, joy, happiness, and many, many blessings! It was the prayers of a few faithful women at WUMC in 1981 who brought us here 36 years ago!

So keep praying and welcome whomever God brings through your doors because we are so grateful you did that for us!

Our deepest thanks and love to each of you!

In Christ's Love and Service,

Sue Hajec



Sue and Joe will take up residence in Littleton, Colorado, moving closer to their son Charlie and his wife Brittany with grandchildren Nora, Grant and Abram.

We have a feeling they will still be frequent travelers to West Point, NY to visit with daughter Jill Radunzel with husband Joel and children Grant, Anna, Arthur, Sarah and Robert – and Miami Springs, FL to visit with their other daughter Becky and the most recent addition to the family 'clan' – grandchild #12 (!) - Matilde "Tilly", along with her siblings Ryan, Lauren and Oli.



It's like Christmas every day... with mommom and poppop close by!

Joe & Sue Hajec showing off their masterworks at a paint night fundraiser.



Charlie & Brittany

Dear Sue and Joe!

We'll miss you dearly here in Wyoming, but can appreciate that especially at this point in your lives, your beautiful family comes first. Wishing you Godspeed on the highways and byways, the hiking paths and flight routes... may God always go before you and keep you and everyone in your family happy and healthy and blessed!

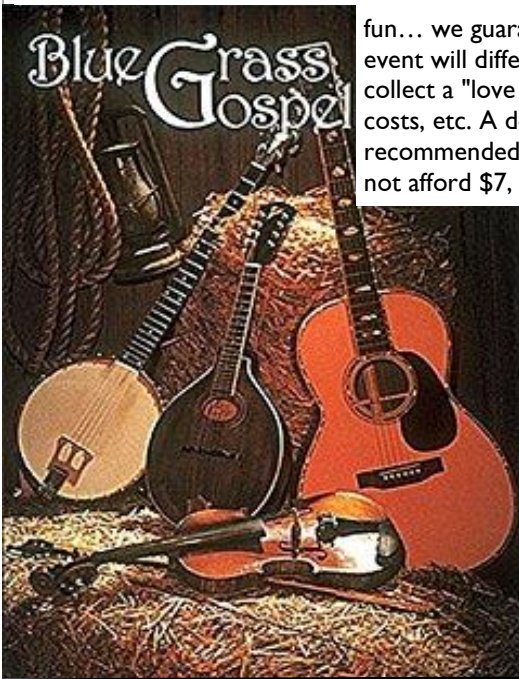


The February 'OPEN TO ALL MEN' **Prayer Breakfast** will meet in the 'Backroom' at Hall's Restaurant on **Saturday, the 24th from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM.** 'Prayers of Patience in the New Year' will be the "Mini Message of Faith. Order from the menu and expect good food, along with great fellowship and an uplifting mini message. Consider inviting a friend to attend with you!

Information/Questions — Josh Turner ☎ 678-9818.

Food & Faith & Fellowship & Family & Food & Faith

The *Adult Fellowship* meeting in February will be on the *7th at 6 PM.* Bring friends and family for the annual "Spaghetti and Gospel Music Night". Our good friends, the "*Tucker Brothers & Friends*" band will perform *Gospel & Blue Grass music.* A *Spaghetti Dinner* will be served. It is not unusual that during similar evenings we serve 200 or more dinners. Join the



fun... we guarantee a good time for all. This event will differ from all others where we collect a "love offering" to recover food costs, etc. A donation of \$7 per person is recommended. If for some reason you cannot afford \$7, come anyway. We do not

require paid admission. For your information we give the band a \$200 honorarium which goes to the youth ministry at one of the band members' church. Any monies left over after paying the costs of the meal is used to help support Wyoming Church ministries such as Camp PeCoMeth and Vacation Bible School.

Any questions, please call George Pettyjohn ☎ 222-3008

Hot News Flash!

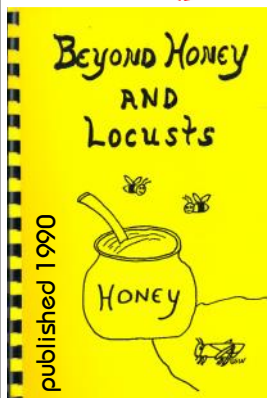
The February 2018 *Sooper Soap Day* will be on *Wednesday, the 14th from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM* in the Family Life Center. For a donation of \$4.00 you will receive a generous portion of your choice of **Chicken Noodle, Chili, or Cream Of Potato Soup** as well as fresh bread/roll/biscuit, beverage, and dessert. The 'Tastes Like Seconds' option enabling you to enjoy a second helping of your choice of soup can be yours for an additional donation of \$3.00. Upon the completion of your luncheon you will have the opportunity to visit the Bake Table laden with a delicious collection of freshly made baked goods awaiting your selection.

Soup Day proceeds benefit the very fine work of the Outreach Team while the monies raised by the Bake Table go toward mortgage reduction.

P.S. to all of our fantastic Congregational *Bakers* --- **We need your very fine baked goods** --- Thank You!

From the Church Cookbook

Wyoming United Methodist Church published a total of 5 cookbooks over the past 65 years. Every month, we will present a recipe that has been a cherished part of the great Methodist tradition of food & fellowship!



SWEET POTATO SOUFFLE

3 to 5 medium sweet potatoes,
boiled and peeled
½ c. cream (sour)
¼ c. sugar
½ tsp. salt

2 Tbsp. melted butter
2 eggs, lightly beaten
1 tsp. nutmeg
Chopped pecans (optional)
Marshmallows (mini)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a 1 quart casserole. Beat potatoes until light and smooth. Beat in cream, sugar, salt, butter, eggs, and nutmeg. Stir in pecans if desired. Turn into casserole. Bake for 30 minutes. Top with marshmallows and return to oven until marshmallows melt.

Barbara Towle

...mmmmh!



Gospel, Spaghetti, Sooper Soups, and Cherry Pies!

Food, Faith & Family

Your Sexton Kitchen Team's (SKT) Food Ministry Program of Food, Faith, And Family continues to serve our growing Wyoming Church's Congregation In a variety of ways. For the month of February your SKT will be busy with a number of activities. On **Wednesday the 7th** the Team will host Jim and Kathleen Torbert as they prepare their **signature Spaghetti Dinner** in the Family Life Center. This 6:00 PM dinner, with a suggested donation of \$7.00 per person, will be followed by the well known **Tucker Brothers Band** presenting **Gospel & Blue Grass Music**.

On **Saturday the 10th**, the Team will provide logistical support for the **6:00 PM "Total Request Live Night Hymn Sing"**.

Monday the 12th will find the Team preparing for the next day, **the 13th - Shrove Tuesday Dinner beginning at 5:30 PM** in the Family Life Center.

In addition, the Team Chefs will be preparing for the **14th Ash Wednesday and Soup Day**.

On the 15th and 16th the Chefs will be preparing for the **Cherry Pie Sale on the 17th** (see pages --- and --- for details on Soup Day and The Cherry Pie Sale, respectively.)

The continued implementation of various teams within the SKT reflects the growing responsibilities that the Team is undertaking in order to be

better prepared to meet the perceived challenges of the future.

Linda Booher, Team Chair, will hold the responsibility for Soup Day.

Nancy Sammons and **Nikole Moore** will co-chair the growing number of SKT Events.

Nancy Roberts and **Tina Klecan** will co-chair Bereavement Events.

George Pettyjohn will do current budget analysis.

Frank Roberts will monitor expenses/income.

Acts Of Nature/Civic Emergencies will be monitored by **Nancy Roberts, Tina Klecan, Carol Abbott, and Terry Higgins**.

Carol Abbott will be the Recording Secretary and

Terry Higgins will be the Team Convener.

On Sunday, January 7th, Carol Abbott, Larry Gant, Martha Higgins, Terry Higgins, and Frank Roberts successfully completed the American Heart Association's CPR/AED Course.

Your SKT is in the early planning stages of the last Soup Day of the 2017 – 2018 Season, Wednesday, March 14th, as well as the Maundy Thursday Observance.

Should you be interested in joining the SKT, please see Linda Booher (photo). She will be pleased to talk with you.



Fabulous SKT Leaders



Carol Abbott



Terry Higgins



Tina Klecan



Nikole Moore



George Pettyjohn



Frank Roberts



Nancy Roberts



Nancy Sammons

I'd like to thank the Wyoming Church congregation for your support of the Redner's Save-A-Tape Program. During 2017, \$82,334.14 in tapes were collected netting the Sexton Kitchen Team \$823.34. That money will be used in support of various programs at Wyoming Church.



Thanks!

Frank Roberts
Coordinator

Employee Owned
Redner's
WAREHOUSE MARKETS
SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM



Nursing Home Monthly Ministry

There are people who live in nursing homes who can no longer attend a worship service in a church. How sad!

So... Wyoming Church takes an informal worship service to them!

*Every 4th Sunday
from 2:00 to 2:45 p.m.*

*a faithful team of caring people
take turns bringing a worship
service to the residents of*

Dover Place Assisted Living on Walker Road.

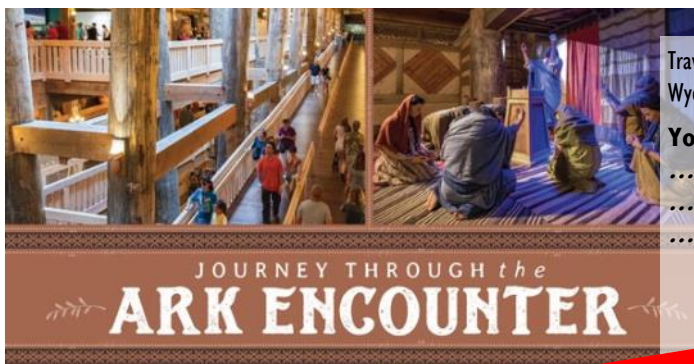
The residents enjoy the interaction, singing, Scripture reading, short devotion and Communion in the comfort of their community room.

They would enjoy having people from Wyoming Church join them in this informal worship service. Come visit and worship with them!

This is a wonderful **family activity!** Come visit and participate as a family! Lead as a family!

Responsibility for leading is once or twice a year or as often as you would like! Piano players are available for each service!

If you are interested in being part of the team that leads the very informal service, or have questions about this ministry, please call the Church Office ☎ (302) 697-8400.



Travel to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum in Kentucky with Wyoming Church - April 3-6, 2018.

Your 4 day/3 nights package includes:

...
...
...

Since we did not get the minimum required number of travelers signed up, this trip had to be **CANCELED**.
If you would still like to go, check with Modern Maturity Center in Dover, as they are offering the same tour!



"Every Praise is to our God!"
Rebirth Gospel Choir under the direction of Ruth Shelton



"Echoes of a Prophet"
Rev. Dr. John G. Moore, Sr.



"One Day"
Rev. Lester Justice



"Unity through Diversity"
Rev. Dean Snyder

Gail Garner, ASL Interpreter



Rev. Rita Paige, Worship Leader
with Pastor Dave Hill

"One Day" - January 15, 2018

A rapt audience listening to passionate speakers, praising the Lord with choirs and musicians and celebrating in fellowship over great food provided by our own WUMC Kitchen Team - **Together...**



... and yes, indeed, something happens when we worship **TOGETHER!**



SEWING DAY OF SERVICE

Calling all sewers and helpers: Outreach and Helping Hands Quilt Guild are sponsoring a Sewing Day of Service on **Saturday, March 17 from 9AM to 2PM** in the Wyoming Church Family Life Center. Those who sew may bring their machines and equipment to spend the day in fellowship and sewing. Those who don't sew, are very helpful because they iron and help with non-sewing tasks that facilitate a fast turn-around with tasks.

Some projects that will be worked on will be bags for school supplies that go to UMCOR as well as pillow cases for cancer patients. All materials will be provided.

If sewing, please, bring a long extension cord and all will need a lunch. Come for any part of the day you can!

Questions? Call Mary Dawn Ditty ☎ (302)883-3037. Join the fun!

Hey everyone!
The
rapids
are
heading
our
way!!



Hard to believe it, but we are starting to gear up for this year's

Vacation Bible School "Rolling River Rampage!"

The dates this year are

June 18-22, 8:30 AM to 12:15 PM.

As we all know, this is a huge team effort and takes many volunteers to make the week run smoothly. If you know you would like to help out, please contact me at bjwhitey@comcast.net. Kate Kleinot and I will be co-directing, and I will serve as the contact person. I will be reaching out to folks in the next few weeks to start getting our volunteer list filled. Also, please see our VBS wish list that we have started in case you are able to lend us any supplies for set needs (don't drag those Christmas trees to the attic yet)! You will have these items returned when the week is over! Thanks so much!! More to come!

Throwback to: Same time Last Year!

Socks,
Socks
and more
Socks
!!!



In January 2017, Wini Walton (Tracey Jones' mother and faithful friend of Wyoming Church), offered men's socks to our Code Purple Shelter. What a blessing that was... socks are the number one needed item for homeless people. Wini's 55+ community, Longacre Village, took on the project of collecting

socks for homeless men. Well, for the second time now, Wini brought in a huge box of socks, sweaters and other clothing items for our homeless boys and men, and we can only repeat what we said at the same time last year:

What a wonderful outreach and a wonderful, generous idea!! Thanks, Wini, for your loyal support of so many of our outreach projects here at Wyoming. You and the residents of Longacre Village are really special people!!



Janna (Whitenight) and Kate

Do you have any of the following items to lend to our VBS set?? Items we're looking for include the following:

Artificial Christmas trees of all sizes
 (with or without lights)
 Inflatable rafts six feet long or smaller
 Raft paddles
 Small camping stools





is now...



On Saturday, March 24th at 10:00 a.m. we will have the opportunity to package over 10,000 meals for **Rise Against Hunger**. This will be the third year we have participated in this wonderful event. Anyone can participate and there are jobs for all ages, from 8 to 85!

This is an Outreach sponsored event, however, our Youth Group will be helping to set up and participate with us and the congregation will have an opportunity to donate towards the cost of the meals which is just over \$2,900. On Sunday, March 18th, you will find an envelope in your bulletins marked '**Rise Against Hunger**'. If you wish to make a donation other than on that Sunday, please mark your checks accordingly.

This is an exciting event and one that will feed 10,000 people who are suffering from hunger all over the world. Please consider helping out!!

BROWN
BAG
LUNCH



... for the Homeless

Wyoming's small groups have been providing brown bag lunches for the homeless each month for over a year and a half. We have had terrific response but are in need of some groups to step forward now and sign up for June and July.

If your group has not participated before and would like to be part of this project, contact Judy Field, Outreach Team, ☎ (302) 284-4059, for details. This is a wonderful way to get people involved in Outreach Ministries. Every item that is donated, helps to provide a meal for a homeless person in our surrounding communities.

Outreach Outreach Outreach Outreach Outreach Outreach



with Outreach

Coming in the Spring:

Outreach Sewing Day (Page 22)
... **Walk for Water** ... **Rise Against Hunger** (see above on this page)

Dates and times are not completely firmed up at the time of this printing but watch future newsletters for details.

REACH UP

REACH IN

REACH OUT





To: You!

'I Cannot Tell A Lie...'

World Famous

Cherry Pies

The Wyoming Church's 'World Famous' Cherry Pies can now be ordered at the Sexton Kitchen Team Kiosk in the Narthex. These incredibly delicious, 9 inch, culinary creations hand-crafted by the Chefs of the Sexton Kitchen Team, can be yours for \$12.00

each. Sign up now and then pick up and pay for your pie(s) at the Chef's Kitchen on Saturday, February the 17th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.



February
Memory Verse

Be devoted to one another

in
LOVE

Honor one another above yourself.
Romans 12:10